

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-6 are pending in this application. Claim 2 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and Claims 1 and 3-6 are amended. Amended Claims 1 and 3-6 are supported by the original claims, and therefore add no new matter.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 3 was objected to for an informality; Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Koath (WO 99/34290); and Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Koath in view of Barnett (U.S. Patent No. 6,173,419).

With regard to the objection to Claim 3, Claim 3 is amended to recite “so that said function module takes control.” Accordingly, the objection to Claim 3 is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Koath, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites a method of extending debug functions of a debugger system for debugging the operation of a target system comprising, *inter alia*:

...
searching by a framework module the predetermined
directory of the host computer for a new function module that
has not yet been registered;
registering by the framework module the new function
module;
...

Thus, it is possible to add a new debug function to the debugger program even after releasing the debugger program. Also, when a bug is found in a debug function, it is possible to replace only the function module including the bug. Further, since a new debug function can be added without modifying the debugger program itself as released, it is possible to

decrease the number of steps required for including the additional functionality, and improve the quality of the debugger program.

In contrast, Koath describes a debugging system including debug objects 20 and 22.¹ The debug system described by Koath is apparently provided to a user as a finished unit. Koath does not teach or suggest any process for upgrading or updating the debugger system. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching or suggestion in Koath for providing new function modules, much less “searching by a framework module the predetermined directory of the host computer for a new function module that has not yet been registered” or “registering by the framework module the new function module,” as recited in amended Claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Koath, and is patentable thereover.

Amended independent Claims 3 and 4 recite similar elements to Claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that Claims 3 and 4 are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 5 as unpatentable over Koath in view of Barnett, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 5 recites a debugger program product comprising:

a framework module configured to search a predetermined directory of a host computer for a new function module that has not yet been registered, configured to register the new function module, configured to be dynamically linked to said function module which serves to provide a debug function for use in debugging the operation of said target system, and configured to be connected to a simulator capable of performing the simulation of said target system in order to debug the operation of said target system by the use of the debug function of said function module.

¹See Koath, page 4, lines 6-12 and Figure 2.

As discussed above, Koath does not teach or suggest “a framework module configured to search a predetermined directory of a host computer for a new function module that has not yet been registered” or a framework module “configured to register the new function module,” as recited in amended Claim 5.

Barnett describes an emulator for debugging software that can communicate with a computer 98,² 108,³ or 136⁴ that includes debugger software. However, the debugger software described by Barnett is apparently provided to a user as a finished unit. Barnett also does not teach or suggest any process for upgrading or updating the debugger software. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that there is no teaching in Barnett for “a framework module configured to search a predetermined directory of a host computer for a new function module that has not yet been registered” or a framework module “configured to register the new function module,” as recited in amended Claim 5.

Since the cited references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of Claim 5, it is respectfully submitted Claim 5 (and Claim 6 dependent therefrom) is patentable over the cited references.

²See Barnett, column 5, lines 13-17 and Figure 5.

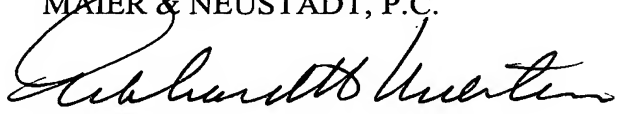
³See Barnett, column 5, lines 47-49 and Figure 6.

⁴See Barnett, column 6, lines 19-24 and Figure 7.

Accordingly, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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